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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-eighth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*Item 3 (c)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations from the programme evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. At its 10th meeting, on 12 June 2018, the Committee considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations from the programme evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (E/AC.51/2018/3).

2. The Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report and, together with ESCAP representatives, responded to questions raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation to OIOS for the report on the triennial review. Delegations commended ESCAP for the measures taken to date to implement three of the four recommendations set out in the report and expressed appreciation for the commitment of ESCAP to fully implement the remaining recommendation on developing and implementing an outreach strategy (recommendation 3). The view was expressed that the strategy should be closely linked to the achievement of the

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2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to work on long-term measures to improve the regional commissions.

4. Delegations expressed their support for the work of ESCAP, acknowledging its important role in promoting regional integration and interconnectivity, fostering an inclusive regional dialogue and contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

5. One delegation recalled the recommendation made by the Committee at its fifty-fifth session that emphasized that the focus of the initial evaluation report on research and analysis should not undermine the importance of other categories of ESCAP work, in particular technical assistance and capacity-building activities, which were crucial for the implementation of the Commission's main mandate to promote regional cooperation and action for inclusive and sustainable economic and social development. In that regard, the delegation indicated that those conclusions and recommendations remained valid and that it was necessary to have greater linkages between ESCAP research and analytical work and technical cooperation.

6. Delegations welcomed the establishment of clear quantitative indicators in response to recommendation 2 on improving the monitoring and evaluation of research and analysis work. In that connection, one delegation sought clarification on why OIOS had not reported on the results achieved in the light of those indicators and sought an update on progress made.

7. In respect of recommendation 3, information was sought on how ESCAP planned to create a single database as part of Umoja Extension 2 and the challenges and specific reasons for not merging the three contact databases as recommended by OIOS.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly take note of the OIOS report on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee on the programme evaluation of ESCAP.**

9. **The Committee commended ESCAP for the progress it had made in fully implementing three of the four recommendations set out in the OIOS report and recommended that the General Assembly encourage ESCAP to continue to implement the outstanding recommendation, to promote regional economic cooperation, to foster the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to boost the inclusive and sustainable economic and social development of the Asia-Pacific region.**

10. **The Committee noted the focus of the report on research and analysis and emphasized that ESCAP technical assistance and capacity-building activities were also crucial for the implementation of the Commission's main mandate to promote cooperation and action to overcome some of the region's greatest challenges to sustainable development.**